

**OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
CALIFORNIA EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT AND
AMBULATORY SURGERY DATA REPORTING MANUAL,
MEDICAL INFORMATION REPORTING FOR CALIFORNIA, THIRD EDITION**

PRINCIPAL LANGUAGE SPOKEN

Section 97267

Effective with encounters occurring on or after January 1, 2009, the patient's principal language spoken shall be reported using one of the following three alternatives:

- (a) *If the patient's principle language spoken is known and is included in the following list of alternatives, report the three letter code from the list:
See list below*
- (b) *Other. If the principal language spoken is known, but is not listed in subsection (a), report the full name of the language.*
- (c) *If the principal language spoken is unknown, report the three digit code 999.*

Specifications for reporting this data element with the Record Entry Form for online web entry of individual records or online data file transmission for encounters occurring on or after **January 1, 2009**:

PRINCIPAL LANGUAGE SPOKEN											
<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div>											
ENG	English	HIN	Hindi	POL	Polish						
ARA	Arabic	HUN	Hungarian	POR	Portuguese						
ARM	Armenian	ITA	Italian	RUS	Russian						
CHI	Chinese	JPN	Japanese	SCR	Serbo-Croatian						
FRE	French	KOR	Korean	SPA	Spanish						
CPF	French Creole	LAO	Laotian	TGL	Tagalog						
GER	German	HMN	Miao, Hmong	THA	Thai						
GRE	Greek	KHM	Mon-Khmer, Cambodian	URD	Urdu						
GUJ	Guarathi	NAV	Navajo	VIE	Vietnamese						
HEB	Hebrew	PER	Persian	YID	Yiddish						
				999	Unknown						

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Reporting Requirements:

- Enter only **one** 3-digit value.
- You may use up to 24 alpha characters to report the full name of languages not already listed.
- Indicating more than one language designations is not allowed.

DISCUSSION

Principal Language would be the language the patient primarily uses in communicating with those in the health care community.

A child's language can be the language of the parent or caretaker used for communicating with the physician on the child's behalf.